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BEAUTIFUL
DENVER

Denver is a strong exponent of the City Beautiful theory. What is more, this city has put the theory in practice and finds that it works. A recent issue of *Municipal Facts*, Denver's municipal paper, calls attention to the extent to which civic improvement has been carried on in this city of the west. Denver has splendid public buildings, a new stately capitol, and a dignified and handsome public library; it is one of the best, if not the best, lighted city in the United States; it believes in parks and playgrounds, both in winter and summer; it plants trees; it is to have a civic center; it realizes that natural beauty is an actual asset and marks fine viewpoints adjacent to the city. It is erecting a fine monument to the Pioneers by Macmonnies, and has an active Artists' Club, which arranges a series of exhibitions in the gallery at the public library for the benefit of the public. Occasionally, however, it takes a backward step. Last year it initiated an effort to make good dramatic performances popular, maintaining a censorship over the plays presented in its auditorium, and insisting upon a minimum charge for all seats; this year it has rented its auditorium to a theatrical manager on a purely business basis and permitted a return to regular theater prices. The Civic Theater—that theater which is "to educate by amusing," to be an instrument in the hands of the people for the people's good—is still an unrealized ideal, but it is no idle dream. Here is an opportunity for Denver.

ART IN
SAN FRANCISCO

At the Art Institute this season there has been a succession of important exhibitions, a number of which have been secured through the American Federation of Arts. First at the time of the Teachers' Convention came one of work done in the elementary schools of several States, assembled by Mr. Henry Turner Bailey of Boston; then came a collection of drawings and designs in black and white and color done by students of the leading art

schools of the East, which was interesting not only in itself but because it enabled the art students of San Francisco to measure their work with that done elsewhere. By far the most important exhibition, however, secured from outside was that of fifty or more water colors by prominent Eastern artists, among whom may be named Jessie Willcox Smith, William H. Holmes, James Henry Moser, Susan H. Bradley, Colin Campbell Cooper, Emma Lampert Cooper, Robert Coleman Child, Lesley Jackson, Alice Cushman, Blanche Dilleye, George Walter Dawson, John Wesley Little, Marianna Sloan, Paula Himmelsbach and Bertha E. Perrie. The Annual Spring Exhibition of the Institute was held from March 3d to 30th, and comprised 122 works by local artists—oil paintings, water colors, pastels, work in black and white, miniatures and sculpture. It was generally conceded to be the best exhibition held by the San Francisco artists since the earthquake fire in 1906. Among the exhibitors were William Keith, William Wendt, L. P. Latimer, Jean Mannheim, Frank Van Sloun, Arthur Beckwith, John A. Stanton and Julia Bracken Wendt. This exhibition was followed in April by an exhibition of original work by the leading American illustrators, a collection assembled by the Society of Illustrators of New York and sent out by the American Federation of Arts.

THE ST. LOUIS CITY ART MUSEUM

St. Louis shared with Buffalo the privilege extended through the Hispanic Society of America of viewing this spring a collection of 132 recent paintings by Señor Joaquin Sorolla y Bastido. In the City Art Museum this collection was set forth from March 22d for three weeks. Most of the pictures comprised in this collection were painted after the artist's return to Spain from his former visit to the United States; or, in the latter half of 1909 at Valencia, in the winter of 1909-10 at Burgos and Seville, later in 1910 at Zarauz and Madrid, and in 1911, prior to his departure

for the present visit to this country. A few were of earlier date. It is interesting to note that through the generosity of Hon. Charles Nagel the St. Louis Museum was the first in America to possess a painting by Sorolla; and that from the painting of this early picture, "Another Marguerite," in 1892, which was shown in the St. Louis Exposition, dates the important period of his career. From the exhibition recently held two more of this master's works were purchased for the City Museum and a number of sales were made to individuals. In securing this exhibition the City Art Museum demonstrated again its progressive and broad policy.

During the year 1910 twenty-two special exhibitions were held in this Art Museum. These embraced the works of almost all the leading artists of America.

Just as this note goes to press news is received of the death, in London, of Mr. Halsey C. Ives, director of the City Art Museum. Though Mr. Ives has been in ill health for some time the end came suddenly and unexpectedly. His loss will be much felt.

ART IN
TOLEDO

Twenty-one thousand school children in one year listened to lectures on Egypt in the Egyptian gallery at the Toledo Museum of Art. For the past six years special evenings have been set aside when the Museum has been open to working girls and their escorts. The Director and Assistant Director, furthermore, have for several years given talks at the noon hour to the girls in Toledo factories upon such subjects as "Simplicity in House Decoration," "Simplicity in Dress," "Art in Daily Life," each accompanied by practical illustrations. It is this service to the people which has led to the erection of a new Museum, a handsome and well-designed building now nearing completion. One aim of the new Museum will be to establish a vital relation between art and industries, the manufacturing interests of the city. In the interest of the new Museum a little booklet has recently been

issued from which these facts have been culled. Some excellent illustrations are shown of the public service rendered by the Museum, photographs of children and adults in attendance at the exhibitions and lectures being reproduced. Mr. George W. Stevens is director, his wife assistant director.

ART IN
LOUISVILLE,
KENTUCKY

Louisville is endeavoring to secure a permanent art gallery. It has an Art Association now about two years old which was established for this purpose and is working toward this end in co-operation with the Public Library. Progress is being made. Four exhibitions were held at the Public Library under the auspices of the Association this winter—one of these, the exhibition of the Society of Western Artists, was attended by 14,600 persons. In addition to the exhibitions an illustrated lecture on American painting secured through the American Federation of Arts was given at the main library and in five branch libraries in February.

NEWS ITEMS

Through the efforts of the Minnesota State Art Society the Legislature of Minnesota has recently granted an additional appropriation of approximately \$4,000 a year to be used in promoting the development of industrial art in the State. The Women's Clubs of Minnesota have assisted in the campaign for the establishment of this fund and have issued in its interest an excellent little leaflet telling why the State Art Society should have a much larger annual appropriation for this purpose. There is in Minneapolis, moreover, a wide-awake Handicraft Guild which conducts a summer school for craftsmen and does much toward increasing knowledge and appreciation.

The Metropolitan Improvement League of Boston has joined with a number of Boston artists and art lovers in asking for subscriptions toward securing